

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets makes changes to Figs. 1 and 2 and replaces the original sheets with Figs. 1 and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-10 are pending in this application. By this amendment, the specification, Figures 1 and 2 and claims 1 and 3-10 have been amended and claim 2 has been cancelled. In particular, Figs. 1 and 2 have been amended to include the legend "Prior Art" and the features of claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 1. No new matter has been added.

The drawings were objected to because they were not labeled as "Prior Art." By this Amendment, Figs. 1 and 2 have been corrected to add the legend "Prior Art." It is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

The specification was objected to because of several informalities. By this Amendment, the specification has been amended responsive to the objection. It is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-10 were objected to because of several informalities. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 3-10 have been amended responsive to the objection. It is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to clearly identify the location of the "platform pressure wall" and the "platform suction wall" in relation to the platform cavity. By this Amendment, the features of claim 2, now incorporated into claim 1, have been clarified to refer to "the platform cavity". It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-5 and 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Dierberger et al. (Dierberger), U.S. Patent No. 4,040,767. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dierberger fails to disclose a nozzle guide vane or turbine rotor blade with a platform cavity divided into at least two chambers with no direct flow path therebetween, as recited in claim 1.

Dierberger discloses a guide vane with a platform cavity 38 and platform baffle 40 disposed therein (column 3, lines 65-67 and Fig. 2). The platform baffle 40 divides the platform cavity 38 into a first chamber (chamber below the platform baffle 40) and a second chamber (chamber between the platform baffle 40 and platform section 22 as asserted on page 4 of the Office Action). As shown in Fig. 2, Dierberger fails to disclose all of the features recited in claim 1 because a direct flow path exists between Dierberger's first chamber (chamber below platform baffle 40) and Dierberger's second chamber (chamber between platform baffle 40 and the platform section 22). Dierberger thus does not disclose a platform cavity divided into at least two chambers with no direct flow path therebetween as recited in claim 1 as well as the additional features recited in the dependent claims thereof. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Tomita et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,915,923, claims 1 and 9-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Endres et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,359,310, and claims 1 and 9-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Bourguignon et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,320,485, have been rendered moot by at least the incorporation of the claim 2 features into claim 1.

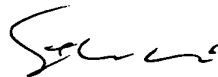
Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Dierberger in view of Green, U.S. Patent No. 5,382,135. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Green fails to overcome the deficiencies of Dierberger because Green does not disclose a nozzle guide vane or turbine rotor blade with a platform cavity having a first chamber and a second chamber. Thus, when Dierberger is combined with Green, the combination does not disclose all of the features of claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1 and 3-10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Replacement Sheet (Figs. 1 and 2)

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